

Application No.: 10/609,389
Docket No.: AD6893USNA

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Remarks

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Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Amendments to Specification and Claims The specification has been amended to correct typographical errors therein.

Claims 1 and 3-24 have been amended and claim 2 has been cancelled. The dependency of claims 3-6 and 20 has been amended to reflect the cancellation of claim 2. The preambles of the claims have been amended to correspond to amended claim 1. In addition, claims 3, 4, 6, 14 have been amended to reconcile language to the amendments to claim 1. Of specific note is the amendment to claim 22 to include the equation used for the calculation.

New claim 25 has been added. Antecedent basis for newly added claim 25 is found on pages 19 and 20 of the specification.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph Claims 1, 4, 8, 10-13, 16, 18 and 19 have been amended in response to the rejection to correct issues related to the lack of antecedent basis. The amendment to claim 24 addresses the issue of the statutory class of the claim.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 Claims 1, 3-21 and 23 are now directed to "A machine-readable storage medium" that contains a set of instructions for causing a computing device to execute a method to calculate an economic value in response to the Examiner's rejection.

In accordance with M.P.E.P 2106.01(I) the machine-readable medium encoded with the set of instructions for causing a computing device to execute the recited method permits the computing device's functionality to be realized and is thus statutory. These claims now comport with original claim 22, the only one of the original method claims not rejected for lack of statutory subject matter.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Claim 1 has been amended in response to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

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Support for amended claim 1 may be found in original claim 2 and on pages 19 and 20 of the specification.

Amended claim 1 now includes, in steps e) through h), iterative calculations related to the manufacturing process. This iterative aspect is believed not present in the cited art.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 As noted immediately above, claim 1 includes iterative calculations related to the manufacturing process. None of the cited references is seen to disclose, teach or suggest the inclusion of such iterative calculations. Thus, amended claim 1 and claims 3-21 and 23-25, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, are now believed allowable.

Amended independent claim 22 now recites the specific relationship used in the calculation of economic value. None of the cited references is seen to disclose, teach or suggest this specific relationship for calculating economic value-added. Accordingly amended claim 22 is believed allowable over the cited references.

With particular regard to paragraph 28 of the Office Action, it is noted that Shulman (Fig. 7) does not accumulate data in one or more spreadsheets for the purpose of data input. Fig. 7 of the Shulman reference relates to an output of Shulman's system.

In paragraphs 32 and 33 of the Office Action the Examiner refers to "Rachlin: paragraph 0084 and paragraph 0150". It is noted that Rachlin is a textbook and does not have numbered paragraphs. It is assumed for purposes of this Response that the Examiner is referring to the Shulman reference. However, the content of paragraphs 84 and 150 of the Shulman reference does not appear to be pertinent to this claim.

In paragraphs 34 and 35 of the Office Action the Examiner refers to Shulman paragraph 150. Although Shulman paragraph 150 mentions a "wide variety of reports" no specific reference is present to loading data into a spreadsheet and into a pivot table for display of results.

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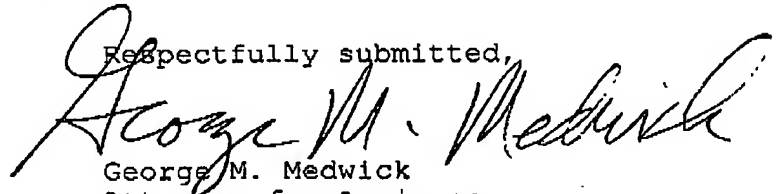
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In view of the foregoing all of the pending claims are believed to define patentable subject matter and that this application now stands in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any necessary fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Respectfully submitted,



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